Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 02717 231551Z ACTION SS-25

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8194

CONFIDENTIAL MOSCOW 02717

EXDIS

ECON/C:FARRAND

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:ASEC, US, UR, PINS

SUBJECT: INCIDENT AT UNITED STATES COMMERCIAL OFFICE (USCO)

1. AT APPROXIMATELY 12:40-50 ON FEBRUARY 23 AN UNKNOWN SOVIET MALE HANDED A SMALL BRIEFCASE CONTAINING PAPERS TO AN AMERICAN BUSINESSMAN IN THE MEN'S TOILET AT THE USCO. THE SOVIET WAS DESCRIBED AS A PERSON OF AVERAGE APPEARANCE AND MEDIUM BUILD WHO SPOKE BROKEN ENGLISH. THE AMERICAN BUSINESSMAN IS IDENTIFIED AS RICHARD M. KNOX, KNOX DATA PROCESSING, HAYVENHURST AVENUE, VAN NUYS, CALIFORNIA. THE SOVIET REQUESTED THAT KNOX DELIVER THE DOCUMENTS TO A DOCTOR (NAME UNINTELLIGIBLE) AT THE AMERICAN EMBASSY. AFTER THE SOVIET GAVE KNOX THE BRIEF-CASE, HE DEPARTED THE USCO. KNOX IMMEDIATELY INFORMED A USCO OFFICER OF THE EXISTENCE OF THE BRIEFCASE. NOTE: AN EXHIBIT AND SEMINAR ON TECHNIQUES AND EQUIPMENT FOR THE TREATMENT OF HEART AILMENTS ENTITLED QUOTE CARDIOLOGY 78 UNQUOTE OPENED AT THE USCO ON FEBRUARY 21. USCO PERSONNEL INDICATE THAT THIS SAME SOVIET WAS OBSERVED IN THE COMMERCIAL OFFICE ON FEBRUARY 22.

2. A REVIEW OF THE CONTENTS OF THE BRIEFCASE REVEALED: CONFIDENTIAL

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--A STATEMENT, ADDRESSED TO PRESIDENT CARTER FROM YU. A. KOZHEVNIKOV, ASKING FOR HELP IN EMIGRATING TO THE US AND REQUESTING PAYMENT OF THREE MILLION DOLLARS, PLUS THE POSSIBILITY OF MAKING PUBLIC APPEARANCES AND OF HAVING A PRIVATE MEDICAL PRACTICE.
--A COPY OF A LENGTHY ACADEMIC PAPER ON THE SCIENCE OF DISEASES BY YU. A. KOZHEVNIKOV AND A PRINTED PAMPHLET,

BY THE SAME INDIVIDUAL, ON HEART DISEASE.

3. POST ASSUMES THAT THE SOVIET WHO LEFT THE DOCUMENTS IN THE USCO IS KUZHEVNIKOV.MATLOCK

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